

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SPC-03

PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 H-03 OPR-02 PPT-02 SCA-01 A-01

DODE-00 DRC-01 /051 W

----- 077223

R 251645Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9224

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CONAKRY 1670

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR US GV

SUBJECT : CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER ON MCWALTERS/
MORLEY CONFUSION

REF: (A) CONAKRY 1649

(B) STATE 210324

SUMMARY: I HAD FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION ON PATRICIA MORLEY/
MARY MCWALTERS CONFUSION (REF A) WITH PRIME MINISTER OCTOBER
25. I TOLD PRIME MINISTER THAT AS FAR AS I COULD SEE CONFUSION
RESULTED FROM COMPLETELY UNTRUE AND UNWARRANTED ASSUMPTION BY
GUINEAN AMBASSADOR DAKAR THAT TWO WERE SAME PERSON. I ALSO
GAVE HIM ANALYSIS OF AMERICAN LANGUAGE INACCURACIES IN HOROYA
VERSION OF MORLEY LETTER AS WELL AS COPY OF WRITTEN REPORT
PREPARED BY DR. CROWN SHOWING THAT WELL KNOWN EAST AFRICAN
FORGER DR. OPAL HAD USED NAME OF MORLEY IN PAST DECEPTIONS.
AFTER PRIME MINISTER ASSURED ME THAT HIS ONLY INTENTION WAS
TO SHARE REPORTS RECEIVED I REQUESTED HE STUDY DOCUMENTS I HAD
GIVEN HIM, PURSUE INVESTIGATION AND INFORM ME OF RESULTS.
END SUMMARY.

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1. I BEGAN MY PRESENTATION BY AGAIN TELLING PRIME MINISTER THAT AFFIRMATION IN TELEGRAM FROM GUINEAN AMBASSADOR DAKAR TO PRESIDENT TOURE (PARA 2 REF A) CLAIMING PATRICIA MORLEY CAME TO GUINEA UNDER NAME MARY PATRICIA MCWALTERS CONSTITUTED MOST SERIOUS ACCUSATION AGAINST USG AND AMERICAN EMBASSY CONAKRY WHICH COULD NOT BUT HAVE SERIOUS EFFECT ON OUR RELATIONS. THIS IS SO, I SAID, BECAUSE POLICY OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND ITS EMBASSY IN CONAKRY IS TO PROMOTE BETTER RELATIONS WHICH WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE NEGATED BY OFFICIAL AMERICAN WORKING AGAINST GUINEAN REGIME. I REPEATED TO HIM SECRETARY NEWSOM'S COMMENT TO PRESIDENT OF LAST JULY THAT IF OUR RELATIONS ARE TO IMPROVE, IT IS NECESSARY THAT WE HAVE MUTUAL CONFIDENCE IN EACH OTHER'S MOTIVES AND INTENTIONS. THEREFORE IT MOST IMPORTANT THAT THIS MATTER BE CLEARED UP AND ALL DOUBTS REMOVED.

2. TOLD PM I COULD NOT UNDERSTAND ON WHAT BASIS GUINEAN AMBASSADOR DAKAR COULD SAY THAT PATRICIA MORLEY TRAVELLED TO CONAKRY UNDER NAME OF MARY MCWALTERS. MY REASON FOR SAYING THIS, I SAID, WAS THAT THE TYPES AND NUMBERS OF THE PASSPORTS CITED IN HIS MESSAGE WERE WRONG ACCORDING TO (A) REPORT FONMIN GAVE US FROM GOG SECURITY SERVICES; (B) INVESTIGATIONS MADE BY USG; (C) COPIES OF NOTES FROM US EMBASSY DAKAR TO GUINEAN EMBASSY DAKAR REQUESTING VISAS, THAT HAD ALSO BEEN GIVEN ME BY FONMIN. I SAID THAT MCWALTERS IS A LONG-TIME TRUSTED USG EMPLOYEE WHO PERFORMED REGIONAL WORK IN SIX WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN COMPLETELY OVERT FASHION. SHE HAD NEVER TRAVELLED OR USED ANY OTHER NAME BUT HER OWN AND HAD NOT BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANY GUINEANS OUTSIDE LIMITED NORMAL OPEN CONTACTS DURING HER STAY HERE. I LEFT COPY OF HER BIO REGISTER ENTRY WITH PRIME MINISTER TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF HER ITINERARY DURING MONTH OF MAY SHOWING SHE HAD NEVER BEEN TO ACCRA AS ASSERTED IN MORLEY LETTER.

3. PRIME MINISTER REPLIED BY ASKING ME TO BEGIN WITH THE MORLEY LETTER ITSELF AS THAT IS WHERE GUINEANS STARTED THEIR INVESTIGATION. HE SAID HE KNEW THAT FALSE PASSPORTS ARE A DIME A DOZEN, THAT THERE ARE SPIES AND SCOUNDRELS WHO WOULD NOT HESITATE TO POISON US/GUINEA RELATIONS AND THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR ALMOST ANYONE TO TRAVEL TO GUINEA WITH AN AMERICAN PASSPORT AND PASS AS AN AMERICAN BECAUSE AMERICANS ARE A MULTI-ORIGIN PEOPLE. GUINEA'S INTEREST IN PUBLISHING THE MORLEY LETTER
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WAS SIMPLY TO INFORM THE GUINEAN PEOPLE OF THIS EVIDENCE IT HAD RECEIVED OF PEOPLE WORKING AGAINST THEM. AT THE TIME IT WAS PUBLISHED, THE GUINEAN GOVERNMENT KNEW THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WOULD MAKE INQUIRIES WHICH WOULD BEGIN A MORE PROFOUND INVESTIGATION BASED ON EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO BOTH SIDES. WHEN THE INQUIRY WAS MADE THE GUINEANS HAD BEGUN A MORE SERIOUS INVESTIGATION AND THE RESULTS WERE (BELATEDLY) HANDED OVER TO THE MABASSADOR ON OCTOBER 23 (REF A). SAID THIS WAS NOT DONE

BEFORE BECAUSE HE AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS WERE OUTSIDE COUNTRY. STRESSED THESE DOCUMENTS INTENDED TO SHARE INFORMATION WITH US TO PERMIT FURTHER MUTUAL INQUIRY. IF CHARGES WERE FULLY BELIEVED AND GUINEA NOT INTERESTED IN GOOD RELATIONS, MATTER WOULD HAVE BEEN FULLY COMMENTED ON AS IN CASE OF CHARGES AGAINST SENGHOR AND HOUPHOUET BOIGNY.

4. I CONTINUED BY POINTING OUT TO THE PRIME MINISTER THAT CERTAIN EXPRESSIONS USED IN THE "HOROYA" VERSION OF THE MORLEY LETTER WHICH WOULD NEVER BE USED BY A NATIVE AMERICAN SPEAKER. I GAVE HIM A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION ON DR. OPAL AND THE CLEAN AFRICA COMMITTEE GIVEN ME BY DR. CROWN, TOGETHER WITH THE EVIDENCE ATTACHED TO THE REPORT. THEN I ASKED AGAIN FOR A COPY OF THE MORLEY LETTER SO THAT A FURTHER ANALYSIS COULD BE MADE.
TODMAN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CONAKRY 1670

5. THE PRIME MINISTER ASSURED ME THAT US/GUINEA RELATIONS HAD SURVIVED FAR MORE SERIOUS CRISES THAN THE PRESENT ONE AND PROMISED AGAIN TO CONTINUE HIS INVESTIGATIONS OF BOTH THE MORLEY/MCWALTERS CONFUSION AND THE BONA FIDES OF THE MORLEY LETTER. HE PROMISED CONVEY MY DEMARCHE TO PRESIDENT.

6. ON A PURELY PERSONAL BASIS I TOLD THE PRIME MINISTER THAT I COULD BELIEVE THE MORLEY/MCWALTERS CONFUSION HAD COME ABOUT DURING THE SEARCH TO SEE WHO HAD ISSUED A VISA TO PATRICIA MORLEY. IT WAS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE, I SAID, THAT TAKING THE ALLEGED MORLEY VISIT FOR A FACT, AN OVERZEALOUS PERSON SEARCHING THE RECORD AND DISCERNING THAT NO VISA HAD BEEN ISSUED TO A PATRICIA MORLEY BUT THAT ONE HAD BEEN ISSUED TO MARY PATRICIA MCWALTERS MAY HAVE DECIDED TO ASSUME THEY WERE ONE AND SAME PERSON. I SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE SEEK FURTHER EXPLANATION FROM GUINEA EMB DAKAR. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS WHAT I HAD TOLD HIM WITH THE PRESIDENT AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH.

7. PRIME MINISTER APPEARED SOMEWHAT SHAKEN BY THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH I TOOK THESE LATEST ACCUSATIONS. HE BACKED DOWN
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CONSIDERABLY FROM WHAT HAD EARLIER BEEN PRESENTED AS GUINEAN GOVT CONCLUSIONS. WHILE I DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE RESULTS OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONSULTATION WITH THE PRESIDENT WILL BE, THIS IS CERTAINLY A STEP FORWARD. I DOUBT THAT WE CAN COUNT ON THE GUINEANS NOT PUBLICIZING RAW INTELLIGENCE IN THE FUTURE. WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE SEKOU TOURE'S SUSPICIONS CAN BE CONTROLLED TO THIS POINT. HOWEVER AS LONG AS HE WILLING SHARE WITH US AND AVOID PUBLIC ACCUSATION OF USG, BELIEVE MATTERS CAN BE KEPT IN LINE.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS: AT ONE POINT PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GUINEAN EMBASSY DAKAR COULD NOT HAVE INVENTED THE PASSPORT NUMBERS USED IN ITS MESSAGE. IN VIEW OF THIS ASSERTION AND PARA 2 STATE 210324 IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE BE INFORMED SOONEST: (A) TO WHOM DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT X-61170 ISSUED AND (B) WHETHER IT WAS VISAED FOR GUINEA.
TODMAN

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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